The Shakerite

December 19, 2002 · Volume 73 · Issue 4 · Shaker Heights High School · 15911 Aldersyde Drive · Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

6 Board games, Shaker style. Get the history, Centerpiece

9 Modern Dance Club heats up the school with its preview, A&E

11 Struggling in the rink in Raidar Radar, Sports

12 For wrestlers, it's a lot of pain and too little gain, Sports

Source of locker thefts comes to light

Astrid Matthews • THE SHAKERITE

EACH YEAR AN average of 2.1 million students are victims of school theft.

•Student catches repeat locker thieves in the act

By Emily Grannis
STAFF REPORTER

A string of locker break-ins over the past few weeks came to an end last week after senior Laura Juengst caught the suspects in the act.

Over the past four weeks, two students have had their lockers broken into a total of three times.

Juengst caught three students attempting to break into one of the lockers for a third time. Juengst, who was standing near the locker during seventh period when a group of boys walked up, said she knew what they were planning to do.

"I didn't really pay attention," Juengst said. "until I heard them say, 'Hey man, that's the same locker as the past two days.' "

Juengst said she then approached the boys and scared them off by confronting them verbally before going to the security office and reporting the scene. She asked the boys what they were doing and told them that she knew that wasn't their locker.

Mike Klima, head of Shaker security, said that security first thought the boys had gotten some of the keys to the lockers, but when they found no keys missing, they concluded that the locker's owners had simply left them open. The school uses combination locks that can be opened with a key in order to reduce the need for lock cutters.

"Ninety-five percent of the locks [overall] are being left open; however, students don't admit it. We find so many during the course of

SEE LOCKERS, PAGE 4

"Without actually having a crow bar or a grinder, there's really no way to kick it off."

Jim Young
locksmith

3 incidents mar dance

By Will Wemer
FEATURE EDITOR

The December icebreaker dance proved to be anything but cool after several incidents cast a black cloud over the senior class fundraiser.

NEWS • The evolution of the icebreaker dance • page 3

At press time, The Shakerite was aware of three events that prompted responses from the police and paramedics.

Shaker security guard Richard Johnson, who was stationed at the North Gym that night, said he called 911 in response to radio traffic from the dance seeking medical help for a student who had consumed too much alcohol. A student who requested anonymity said the junior girl received medical attention in an ambulance in the South Gym parking lot after passing out on the dance floor. "I was standing there, and all of a sudden she fell down. It was pretty bad," the student said.

In the second event, a junior boy was arrested. One of his friends, who wishes to remain anonymous, was angered by the arrest.

"It was ridiculous how so many people were drunk and only one person was arrested," the sophomore said. In the third incident, a senior boy was involved in a car accident on Woodbury Road while driving home from the icebreaker dance.

Party on your own time

•Griffith seeks restraint from non-academic activities during the week before winter break

By Joseph Tartakoff
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Principal Michael Griffith really does not want to be the Grinch who stole holiday parties. He just wants you to maintain your academic focus.

In a move that surprised students, Griffith announced last Friday that there would be no non-academic activities during the week before winter break.

The announcement had junior Nadav Weinberg seeing red.

"It's outrageous that students who work hard all semester can't celebrate on one day," he said.

In a Dec. 13 memo to the staff, Griffith explained that the purpose of the policy was to "reduce potential classroom distractions."

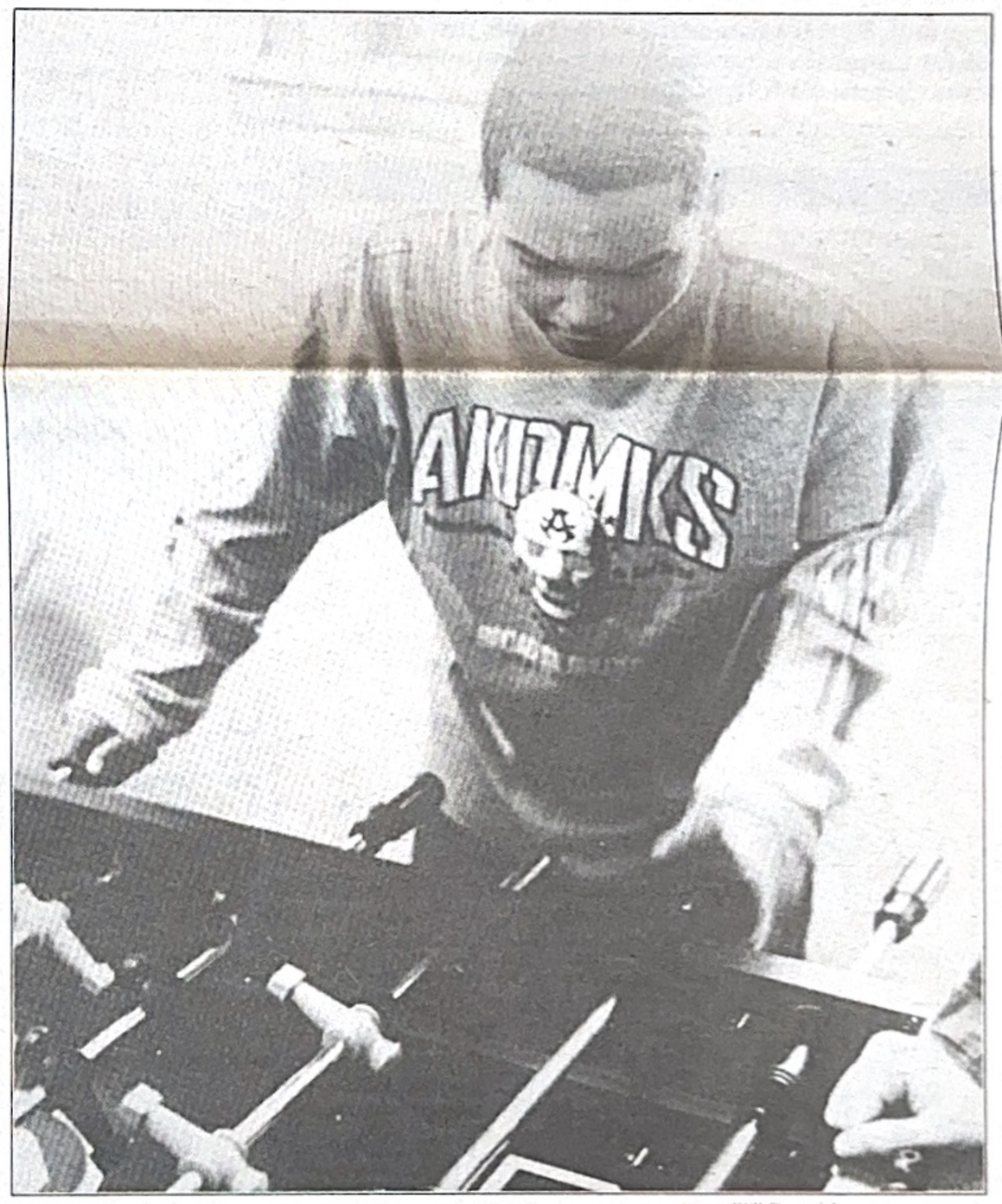
OPINION • Academic focus is the 'Rite idea • page 5

In an e-mail, Griffith said "This is not a new policy. This request has been made before."

"The proximity to final exams and the need for teachers to complete units of instruction prior to the winter break means our

SEE HOLIDAYS, PAGE 3

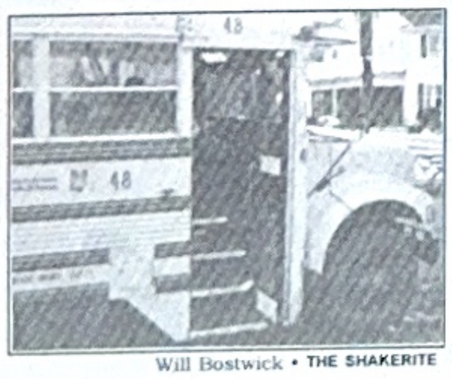
A HANDLE ON THE GAME



Will Bostwick • THE SHAKERITE

SENIOR DARVEL HARRIS plays a rivoting game of Foosball on the table that was recently added to the senior lounge. The table was added in mid-December along with a ping-pong table because the senior class has displayed good behavior so far this year.

Bumpy bus rides bring bundles of bad bloopers



Will Bostwick • THE SHAKERITE

By Aviva Ariel
STAFF REPORTER

Imagine a big yellow bus, lots of stop signs, a few traffic lights and really smelly puke. For sophomore Meg Lalley, this scene sounds way too familiar.

The nauseating incident happened years ago when Lalley was in sixth grade and her sister, who had the flu, was in fourth. "The bus hit a huge bump," Lalley said. "She puked all over."

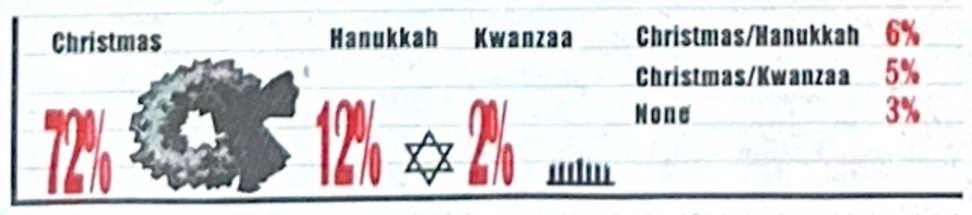
Not only did she regurgitate on herself, but on the little girl next to her, too. "We had to sit with it all the way until we got to school," said Lalley, who luckily can't remember what color it was. "There was a lot of it," she said. "It smelled so bad."

For all students, bus memories are not as lighthearted. Senior Marco Estupinan was going to his old school when their trip took a turn for the worse. "We were going along and then 'wooooooooosh', the bus tipped over," said Estupinan as he

SEE BUSES, PAGE 10

On the Line

What holiday do you celebrate in Dec./Jan.?



Scientific poll of 99 students with a margin of error of +/-10 percent. Journalism I and Shakerite classes telephoned students.

Should winter and spring break correspond to holidays?

• The ACLU sued the Sycamore School District in 1999 for closing school on the Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. The organization maintained that the southern Ohio district did not close its doors on days with greater absenteeism, such as Take Your Daughter to Work Day. The case was settled in 2000 when the Sycamore School Board voted not to close school on those holidays.

Mystery Picture

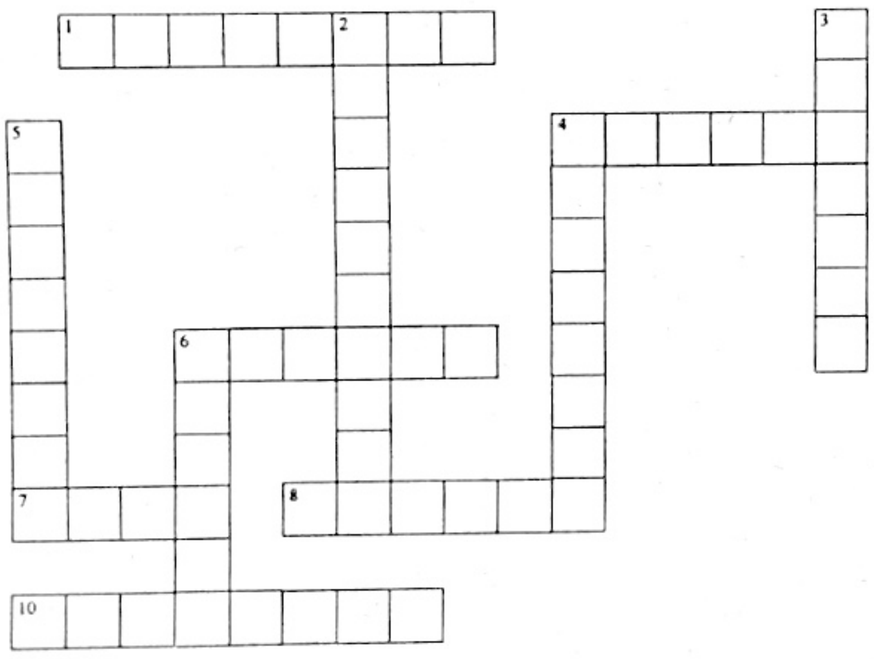
Will Bostwick • THE SHAKERITE

CAN YOU FIND these jumbled letters? If you think you know where they are located, write your name, grade, telephone number and the location and drop it in the slot by Room 229. Last month's picture was taken in the stairwell by the Egress, and the winner was sophomore Frank Taylor. Congratulations!

ACCORDING TO BRIAN BY BRIAN SUTORIUS

Play a Game

Find most of the answers to the crossword puzzle in this month's issue of The Shakerite. Good Luck!



ACROSS

1. Actor who played Don Quixote (two words)
4. _____ Dance Club
6. France's Riviera neighbor
7. First name of psychologist who coined word "Pyknic"
8. An apple or an _____
10. Number of years Dan Koletsky has played hockey

DOWN

2. Name of Dec.14 dance
3. Artist Emily Pfaff admires (two words)
4. Speaker at Achievement Assembly (last name)
5. School district sued by ACLU
6. Brand of locks on lockers

Tasty treats in the snack aisle

By Jeanne Bright
UP FRONT EDITOR

As I was perusing the local drugstore, as I do on a frequent basis, I noticed something that I found to be very unusual. There were three snack-cake items, all of which consisted of a mixture of chocolate cake and vanilla icing. All three of these products are made by the confectionary geniuses at Hostess. I wondered how it could be possible that this one company made the exact same product in three different shapes and packages, yet somehow made a profit. The only ethical solution to this problem was a Shakerite Taste Test! I persuaded four diverse Shakerite editors to taste a sample of each Hostess product: SuzyQ's, Ho Ho's and the chocolate Cup Cakes. If you are ever faced with the difficult dilemma of choosing one of these products, refer to this helpful manual to find the best choice.

•**Ho Ho's**. This product was liked the most overall. It contains chocolate cake and vanilla icing rolled into a cylinder, topped off with a chocolate icing coating. Thus, the icing is evenly distributed in each bite. The roll is soft and extremely moist. Each roll contains six grams of fat and 127 calories.

•**Cup Cakes**. This product placed second. The Cup Cake is a chocolate cupcake injected with a blob of vanilla icing. The top is frosted with chocolate icing and it has a vanilla swirl on top. All editors agreed that the cake section is good, but the chocolate icing is not. The Cup Cake was slightly drier than its Ho-Ho counterpart. Each cupcake contains six grams of fat and 180 calories.

•**Suzy Q's**. This product was poorly rated. It is made with vanilla crème sandwiched between two sections of chocolate cake. The presentation of the baked good is sloppy and makes it look slightly inedible. The icing is good, but the ratio of icing to cake is too high. The cake is dry and crumbly. Each Q contains nine grams of fat and 230 calories.

And the results are in: Drink your milk!

By Rebecca Wolff
COPY EDITOR

Dangerous things we don't do: sex, drugs, violence and smoking.

It's 11:30. Do you know where your child is? They could be having sex, although only 28.1 percent in Shaker do, compared to the national average of 33.4 percent. More likely, they're watching TV with reckless abandon (as 37.7 percent in Shaker do, compared to 30.3 in the state) and drinking anything but milk. These statistics were obtained from the Youth Risk Behaviors Survey given to students last year in homeroom. You know, the one that asked how many times you have stabbed someone recently? Shaker's responses were compared to those from other schools with similar demographics in the state and nation, although comparisons to other schools may not be completely accurate because of Shaker's unique racial composition.

DID YOU KNOW?

SICK EDITION

- Kissing a sick person is safer than shaking his hand. Most germs are distributed via hands, then to mouths, noses and eyes.
- One-third of the people who block a sneeze or cough with their hand do not wash their hands.
- Thirty percent of Americans do not wash their hands after using a public bathroom (though nine out of ten say they do).
- The average adult will have two to three colds per year. The average child will have between four and five.
- Seventy percent of people with colds have infectious material on their hands.
- Nurses and doctors wash their hands less than one-third of the time between patients.

source: "The Hypochondriac's Handbook"

CORRECTIONS

- In the Nov. 22 issue of the Shakerite, Sarah Wang took the picture of the security guard.
- In the Nov. 22 issue of the Shakerite, Claire Johnson wrote "Beat Until Stiff".
- In the Nov. 22 issue of the Shakerite, Issue 1 was mischaracterized. The Issue was not a movement to legalize marijuana in Ohio.
- In the Nov. 22 issue of the Shakerite, Jesse Koler also authored the lollipop story.

Quote of the Month

"Laughter is the shortest distance between two people."

- Victor Borge

Humorist and entertainer

Give your child the "gift" of community spirit!

Join Caring Communities Organized for Education at its 6th Annual Kwanzaa Celebration. Thursday, December 26, 2002, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Shaker Community Center

For details and to RSVP contact Roslyn Mack, 921-5499 or english@ccmrbdd.org

The Shakerite

Volume 73 • Issue 4
2002 Editorial Board of *The Shakerite*.
All rights reserved.
Sara Reichstein*
Joseph Tartakoff*
EDITORS IN CHIEF

Kyan Safavi
Alex Buder Shapiro
NEWS EDITORS

Becca Bonthius*
Rick Jennings*
OPINION EDITORS

Lauren Gardner*
David Morgenstern
CENTERPIECE EDITORS

Liz Campbell
Emily Ozan
A&E EDITORS

Kelly Schaefer
Will Wemer
FEATURE EDITORS

Katherine Ekeberg
Jeff Greenwald
SPORTS EDITORS

Jeanne Bright
UP FRONT EDITOR

Anna Hutt
Rebecca Wolff
COPY EDITORS

Will Bostwick
Astrid Matthews
PHOTO EDITORS

Rachel Morgenstern-Clarren
Brian Sutorius
ART EDITORS

Jennifer Broadbent
MANAGING EDITOR

Pamela Wiznitzer
READER REPRESENTATIVE

Matt Seidner
BUSINESS MANAGER

Natalie Sekicky
ADVISER

reporters.
Aviva Ariel,
Ashlei Cannon,
Ray Daley,
Betty Elee,
Emily Grannis,
Cassidy Heller,
Alex Hitchens,
December Kinney,
Amber Lovejoy-Rezek,
Marguente Moore,
David O'Connell,
Meagan Steiner,
Jason Plautz,
Sarah Wang,
Lauren Weiss

photo staff.
Brian Gamm,
Cliff Harding,
Laura Kangas,
Sarah Wang

artists.
Allie Jennings,
Shira Poister,
Allison Vitkus

letters.
Letters to the editor must be signed and may not exceed 200 words. Letters, subscription and advertising inquiries should be delivered to the Shakerite office in Room 229, or mailed to: The Shakerite, 15911 Aldersyde Drive, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120. The Shakerite reserves the right to reject or edit any letter to the editor or advertisement.

critique.
The Shakerite will hold a critique session on Friday, Dec. 20. All students and faculty are invited to attend to comment on the content of the paper.

disclaimer.
Opinions expressed in The Shakerite articles are those of their respective authors, and do not represent the views of The Shakerite, Shaker Heights High School or the Shaker Heights City School District. The "Rite Idea" presents the views of the editorial board; however, it may not reflect the opinion of The Shakerite staff. Asterisks denote members of the editorial board. The Shakerite is a public forum published eight times a year for and by students of Shaker Heights High School. During school days the Shakerite may be reached at 216.295.4246.

Brush student dies of meningitis infection

• Precautions have been taken to ensure safety of student's friends at Shaker

By Will Wemer
FEATURE EDITOR

For friends of Eric Russell, meningococcal disease is more than just an entry in a medical dictionary. Early in the morning of Dec. 4, the Brush High School senior died at Hillcrest Hospital in Gates Mills from what doctors believe to be a strain of bacterial meningitis.

Russell, who was a National Achievement Scholar and a member of the Brush football and cross-country teams, had several friends at Shaker, including senior Sarah Ludgin.

"Eric was a great person," Ludgin said. "He had a smile to remember and a sense of humor never to forget. I will miss him so much."

Russell's death raised an array of medical questions concerning the health of friends who were around him during the week before his death. According to the Centers for Disease Control, certain strains of bacterial meningitis are contagious, and the disease can be contracted through throat and respiratory fluids that can be exchanged through coughing or sneezing.

The World Health Organization identifies it as one of the 10 most infectious diseases in the world, afflicting 1.2 million victims worldwide yearly. One in 10 of these cases is fatal, including two cases in May 2001 in Alliance, Ohio. Even with hospitalization, the disease can be difficult to properly diagnose.

As a safety measure, family members and friends of Russell were given precautionary antibiotics within 24 hours of his death

Of the Shaker students who were possibly exposed, doctors were most fearful for the health of senior Katherine Ekeberg. Ekeberg, who is a sports editor for the Shakerite, was Russell's girlfriend. With the exception of Ekeberg, who received more potent antibodies, the Shaker students who came within close contact with Russell a week before his death were given the antibiotic Cipro.

> "Eric was a great person. He had a smile to remember and a sense of humor."
>
> Sarah Ludgin
> Senior

Senior Theresa Lee was one of the students who took the antibiotics because of her contact with Russell at a get-together five days before his death. While she mourned the passing of her friend, her parents worried about her health.

"It never really occurred to me at all. You're so overwhelmed. Then you talk to your parents," Lee said.

Though it is possible that Shaker students were exposed to the bacteria, Superintendent Mark Freeman wrote in a letter to Shaker school families and staff members, "At this time, we are not aware of anyone in Shaker who has contracted meningitis as a consequence of contact with Eric, and we do not anticipate any problems. We will continue to work with the district physician, nurses and public health officials to monitor the situation."

Symptoms of Meningitis

- High Fever
- Headache
- **Stiff Neck**
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Sensitivity to light
- Confusion
- Sleepiness

If these symptoms are present, **especially the stiff neck**, consult a medical professional immediately.

Source: The CDC Disease Information Website

Along with its relative ease of contraction, bacterial meningitis is also difficult for doctors to diagnose. The day before Russell's death, he felt ill and was taken to a University Hospitals Mednet clinic. After being evaluated, doctors did not identify his illness as meningitis and released him. According to the Russell family attorney, hours later Russell went to Hillcrest Hospital, also in the University Hospitals Health System, where he died three hours after admittance.

This isn't the first time meningitis has affected Shaker students. In February 1999, Shaker substitute Claudia Moore died of a non-contagious strain of meningitis. Meningitis has also made the news in the Akron suburb of Barberton, where in March 2002, a 15-year-old was hospitalized for meningitis, and in the Elyria suburb of North Ridgeville, where a student at Wilcox Elementary was hospitalized with meningitis in March 1999. Isabella Tuma also reflected on her friend's death. "It's just not fair that someone like Eric had to be taken away from us," the senior said.

the News Desk

New health course slated

• A health independent study course, Teen Health Advocacy, will be offered next semester. Students will participate in several projects, including designing a media campaign to encourage substance-free living, discussing the results of the Youth Risk Behavior survey taken last year and mentoring Woodbury students. "I hope it will take off as a program sort of like SGORR did," Principal Michael Griffith said. The class will be team taught and will meet every Tuesday from 6-7 p.m.

Faculty aim to improve school

• High school staff continue to meet to develop a continuous improvement plan as part of the school's reaccreditation process. *Principal Michael Griffith said an outside group of evaluators will likely visit the school and review the plan in April. Committees including school climate, reading comprehension, writing skills and learning strategies have been meeting since last spring.*

10th grade graduation test scheduled for late March

• Sophomores will take the Ohio Graduation Test this March. The test will eventually replace the ninth grade proficiency test; however this year's OGT, comprising only reading and math sections, is not a graduation requirement. "The test will look much more like the fourth and sixth grade proficiencies, in that it will include open response," District Director of Research and Evaluation Dale Whittington said. The test will be a requirement for graduation beginning in 2007. Whittington added, however, that the state will report the March results by district.

Joseph Turtakoff

Ask Dr. Freeman

Would Shaker consider beginning school later in the morning to accomadate teenagers' sleep schedules?

• Superintendent Mark Freeman said that the district has definitely considered making the change. They have done a considerable amount of research regarding the issue. Some issues that drive the decision are extracurricular activities, athletics, and teachers' labor contracts. According to Freeman, there are no current plans to adjust the schedule. However, the district would gladly consider starting later if a solution was discovered that worked for students and faculty. Freeman says that if new research evolves or nearby school districts adjust their start times, Shaker would follow. Freeman reminds students that Shaker doesn't start as early as many schools. Other schools around the city begin at 7:30 a.m. and 7:45 a.m., Freeman pointed out

FROM HOLIDAYS PAGE 1

focus needs to be academic," he added.

Griffith noted that the decision is not related to misbehavior on Halloween. Rather it is the result of having one less week of school after break, before finals.

Nevertheless, junior Morissa Freiberg thought that some of her teachers would forge ahead with holiday plans during the week.

"Teachers want to go on break as much as we do," she said.

Two alumnis lend their experience to "Man of La Mancha"

By Kyan Safavi
NEWS EDITOR

As the winter theater production "Man of La Mancha" took the stage, veteran theater fans were greeted by a familiar face. Amid the antics of Blake Thompson as Sancho Panza and the incantations of Arlo Hill as Don Quixote, a Shaker grad also made it into the spotlight.

In this instance it was Jeff Michel ('92), who, as Captain of the Inquisition, was a last-minute replacement for a student who was removed from the production.

Theater Department Chairman James Thornton explained the change. "First, there has been a long tradition of bringing in alumni to do one or two roles in the winter show. There really haven't been that many replacements. There was only one this year," he said.

The previous actor who played the role of the Captain of the Inquisition was replaced less than a week before the first performance. To several lead actors and actresses in the play, relying on Michel was logical.

"He learned all the lines in one day. A student would not have been able to do that, most likely," said Hannah Corrigan, who played Aldonza.

Hill agreed with Corrigan and added, "There wouldn't be any students who could be that role. Based on the director's need, they must make the necessary replacements."

Michel made four appearances on stage during each show. Thornton emphasized that although the role did not involve many speaking lines, the physical presence of Captain of the Inquisition was very difficult to fulfill.

"The role needed to be intimidating and powerful. It was a pivotal role," he said.

A second alumnus, Chris Delgado ('02), was added to the production crew only a week before show time, filling the position of deck manager. The deck manager, according to Thornton, is responsible for making sure that everything that happens on stage occurs on time. Delgado, a freshman at Case Western Reserve University, took the position after Thornton made the decision to make the addition.

Junior David Powers, who attended the play, doubted whether it was correct to use alumni in the play. "I don't really see how you could use a graduate when it's supposed to be a learning process for the students. Theater is like a class or like a club. You can't just send a Shaker grad in when you take a math test that you forgot to study for," Powers said.

Thornton, however, disagreed with the assertion that the use of alumni in student roles impedes student learning. "We bring in professionally oriented graduates who are on college vacation or live in the area. We bring experience and expertise to have others learn from them," he said.

Brian Gamm• THE SHAKERITE

ALEX GOGGINS AND Halle Morse, playing horses, gallop across the stage in the play.

Michel has held a teaching residency at the high school, has taught theater in Australia for two years and has performed in several New York City productions. "We can trust him to learn the role," Corrigan said.

Dr. Robert Schneider, head of the music/choral department, also said that he would use alumni in music concerts if necessary. "We've had guest performers and artists before. We will use them if we need to in the future also," he said.

Seniors raise the needed ice at Icebreaker

By December Kinney and
Alex Buder Shapiro
STAFF REPORTER AND NEWS EDITOR

Sure, you can hold car washes or candy sales to raise money for prom.

But these efforts often do not generate enough student support. This year's senior class, however, raised money in a new way: by sponsoring the first ever Shaker Icebreaker Dance, held Saturday, Dec. 14. The pre-sale only tickets cost $5 each. Senior class President Camilla Cullis said that the class's current $17,000 in funds is sufficient to hold the type of prom the class wants. She estimates that an additional $2,000 was made from the 400 dance tickets sold.

The event gave Radio Club its first opportunity to spin the turntables at a school dance. President Caleb Boise said that he was pleased at the dance's outcome, although there were some problems with the smoke machine. Dance security asked Radio Club to turn the smoke level down because they were having difficulty monitoring the students for inappropriate behavior through the foggy haze.

Despite some rumors that the dance would be postponed, and some unpleasant alcohol-related incidents, Cullis was satisfied with the overall turnout.

"Especially because of the short notice, the dance was very successful," she said.

Just the Basics

HOMELAND SECURITY

Who is the leader of the Office of Homeland Security?

• The President appointed Tom Ridge, former Govenor of Pennsylvania, to head The Office of Homeland Security Governor Ridge is a decorated combat veteran and national leader Bush says has the strength, experience, personal commitment and authority to tackle this challenging mission.

What is the *focus of the Office of Homeland Security?*

• Gov. Ridge will coordinate all federal government terrorist prevention and protection activities within the U.S. and will work with state and local governments on, among other things, detection, preparedness, prevention protection, response and recovery, and incident management.

"In a free and open society, no department of government can completely guarantee our safety against ruthless killers who move and plot in shadows."

George W. Bush
President

Students learn the hard way to lock their lockers

FROM LOCKERS PAGE 1

the day," Klima said.

Annually, about 2.1 million students are victims of school theft, and 62 percent of school crimes involve theft, making schools some of the high security applications the locks are made for.

Klima also said that speaking with the thieves confirmed security's suspicions. He said that the boys told him they were going around pulling on the locks and discovered that one of them was open all the time. They stole from this locker two days in a row and then security changed the lock.

Senior Rachel Shatten was with Juengst when the thieves were caught.

"It was really exciting . . . I think it's pretty amazing that a student was able to stop it," Shatten said.

According to Klima and Master Lock, the school uses the highest security combination locks available — the 2002 and the 2010 model padlocks, which feature heavy steel bodies to resist bolt cutters and extra-strength locking mechanisms to make the lock harder to force open. These locks are meant for "high security applications where vandalism and abuse are a problem," according to Master Lock.

Klima demonstrated how the locks work. When securely locked, the dial spins backwards to prevent easy access — no one can open the lock because the dial was left on the final number of the combination. However, if the shackle of the lock is not pushed securely into position, the lock may only look closed and could be an easy target for thieves.

Jim Young, a locksmith at Dave and Harry Locksmith's, said that it would be very difficult for a student to take one of those locks off.

"Without actually having a crow bar or a grinder, there's really no way to kick it off," he said. "Breaking in would take research and time."

> "The student is the best defense for safety and security"
>
> Stuart Gilbert
> Physical education teacher

Master Lock provides several tips on keeping belongings safe in a locker. The main emphasis of these suggestions is not to share lockers or combinations with anyone and to check that the lock is closed securely.

Physical education teacher Stuart Gilbert said students bear the true responsibility for their belongings.

"The student is the best defense for safety and security of the locker room . . . because we have 180 plus people [in the locker rooms], not counting after- and before-school programs," Gilbert said.

Daily, security guards check all the lockers in their specified areas. They turn any open locks backwards and lock them to alert students when they leave lockers open.

A Shakerite experiment found that 5 percent of lockers could be forced open. Of the 328 lockers checked, 14 were left ajar, and two had locks that had been reversed and closed by security.

Rebekah Benish, one of the students whose locker was not closed, said that having to rush for class accounts for her open locker.

"That happened a lot. I was rushing from first to second period," Benish said.

Freshman Ann Hulme found her lock turned backwards that day.

"I thought I locked it, but I guess not. It's the first time that's happened," Hulme said.

Hold up your Bravo card for another assembly

By Lauren Weiss
STAFF REPORTER

Someone walking past the large auditorium on Nov. 21 would have heard claps and "congratulations" and may have thought the school was watching another preview of the theater department's popular shows or honoring student athletes after the fall sports season. The noise, however, was a product of the achievement assembly held to recognize academic success.

> "Just drop the card thing. It would be fine without excluding people."
>
> Megan Mendelsohn
> sophomore

The assembly featured Marvin McMickle, a reverend and former Shaker Heights Board of Education member. McMickle spoke about the need to take advantage of the high school's many opportunities and the necessity of not "self-destructing," which he described as doing drugs and/or becoming a teenage parent.

The assembly was held twice during second period. English teacher Dana Noble described the first assembly as being very respectful.

"The speaker was good," said Noble, who teaches both juniors and seniors. "He was engaging, entertaining, and interesting. He was not dictating, he was appreciating what the students had accomplished."

Sophomore Dana Sobisch, however, felt that a Shaker alumnus should have been the keynote speaker.

"Have a recent graduate that kids can relate to talk about the importance of doing well in school," she said.

Another part of the assembly included Principal Michael Griffith asking the 854 students who received Bravo cards, denoting a 3.5 GPA or higher, to hold them up. This was the most worrisome part for both students and faculty members.

"Just drop the card thing. It would be fine without excluding people," said sophomore Megan Mendelsohn, who was one of only two people in her second period French class to not receive a card. "When everyone raised their cards up, I just sat there."

Band teacher Jeff Patti felt that passing out the cards was fair.

"I think some kids did feel left out, but if the cards were explained to the students, that would have gotten the students who did not receive the Bravo cards . . . to make the decision to strive to get one," he said.

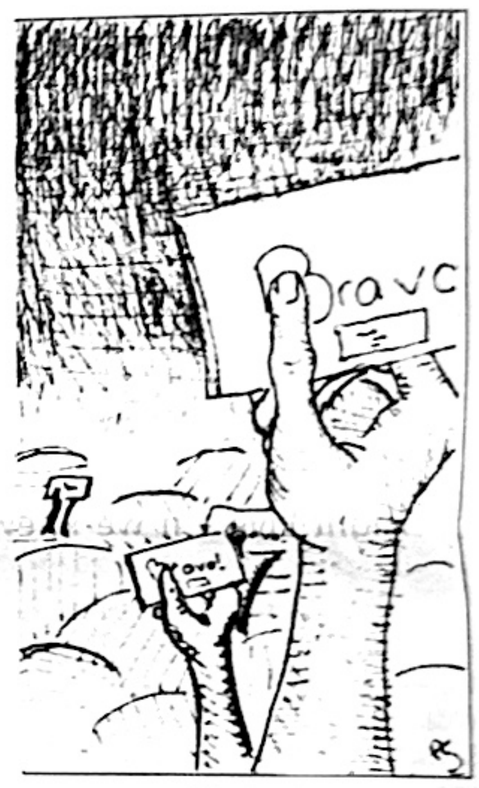
Griffith was very pleased with the fact that about half of the student body received cards.

"This is a challenging academic place. You would never have everyone with 3.5 GPAs or better," he said. Griffith also noted that the cards must have meant a little to the students as none were thrown on the floor of the auditorium.

Junior Lauren Weaver was one of only two people to receive a Bravo card in science teacher Sharron Sankovich's second period class.

"It was disappointing that my classmates are not doing well," she said.

Weaver added that the basic idea of the assembly was good but that there is room for improvement.



Brian Sutorius • THE SHAKERITE

"You could send the Bravo cards home," she said. "Also, you could have the assembly at night with only those who made it invited."

The teachers who make up the

Showdown between US and Shaker: when pucks, fists, and geese fly

By Emily Ozan and Liz Campbell
A&E EDITORS

There was more need for a referee off the ice than on at the University School-Shaker hockey game Dec. 6.

Although school officials limited the number of spectators that could attend, they soon found out that although the number of people could be controlled at the game, their actions could not.

Due to a 5-0 loss, Shaker students could not cheer a win, but they had no problem shouting "See you outside," thus foreshadowing what was to happen following the game.

Fan seating was limited to meet fire codes.

"After the St. Ignatius game I noticed a lot of crowding in the Shaker Heights student section," Thornton Park Facilities Manager Bill Murray said.

Murra contacted the fire department, who inspected the bleachers and decided to allow a maximum of 720 people into the facilities: 414 in the Shaker bleachers, 219 in the visitors' bleachers and 87 in the standing room section.

"Schools counted everybody as they came in, and once we had that 720 we closed the doors," Murray said.

"Those guidelines will be in similar effect for the rest of the seasons and future seasons."

Limited seating did not limit post-game conflict, however.

"I got hit first," juniorspectator Brian Mackley said. "After I got hit, that's when I hit back," said Mackley, who broke his thumb punching a US student.

Mackley said he is not aware of any charges being pressed against him.

However, Murray said police rapidly broke up the "isolated incident."

"Because it's the US game, the schools always hire additional security," Murray said.

But all the security could not stop junior Will Seitz from stealing US's prized possession, a toy goose.

"I just happened to see the goose fly through the air and land on the ground and I just picked it up and ran," Seitz said.

Sophomore Kate Williams drove the getaway car for Seitz and the goose.

"I just saw Will running with the goose and I went to pick him up," Williams said.

Although Shaker students thought it was a funny scheme, US parents were not as happy.

"On Sunday, a US mother called my mom because they know each other and told her that two US hoodlums got beat up over a goose, which of course is not true [because] the fight had nothing to do with the goose, so my dad didn't want me to have any part of it," Seitz said.

"We 'decorated' it and dropped it off late Sunday night," Seitz said. "We left it on the front gate [of the U.S. upper school] and we made a speedy getaway."

REBECCA'S
SHAKER BARBER SHOP
Rebecca DeVenanzio
(216) 229-3057
12808 Larchmere Boulevard
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

RECYCLE THE SHAKERITE
• Find out how to make your trash become treasure on page 8

Shaker Heights Teachers' Association
SHTA
Professionals Educating
Dedicated To Shaker's Youth

Allison Vitkus • THE SHAKERITE

Cheers and Jeers

Jeers to the SHPD – what part of "see you outside" don't you understand?

Cheers to Nordstrom for knowing that Christmas decorations go up *after* Thanksgiving.

Jeers to Jim Thome – you love Cleveland, but you're going to Philadelphia. Is it the money or that the Indians suck?

Cheers to Al Gore on Saturday Night Live – if we knew he had this much charisma, he might have won the 2000 election. Oh, wait...

Jeers to snowplows and salt trucks on Thanksgiving weekend – where are they when we actually *want* them?

Cheers to Ohio State – with two Shaker alums, no wonder they're going to Tempe, Arizona!

Jeers to Clippit, the Microsoft Word Office Assistant – the reason for an increase in violent crime among word processor users.

WE WANT *YOU* TO WRITE FOR OPINION!

Take issue with the Shakerite? Write a letter to the editor or a Guest 'Rite. Letters must not exceed 200 words, Guest 'Rites 350. Submit both to room 229. Include name and phone number.

Bravo to the first 'Rite Honors Assembly Idea

Too often achievement is taken for granted at this school. The November Honors Assembly was an excellent means of much needed reinforcement. The assembly featured Rev. Marvin McMickle, who spoke effectively to the entire student body, and Bravo cards, which were generally well received. Though the assembly was a success, and we hope to see more in the future, there are some ways to improve it.

First, the assembly should be more unifying. Hold the event in the fresh-looking North Gym with the whole student body in attendance. The bright, new gym would also set a better tone for success than the dreary, broken-down auditorium.

Second, make the assembly more interesting. The school should invite great speakers like McMickle back, but the speech should not be the assembly's focal point. Feature the cheerleaders and dancers, who contributed to the success of the recent United Way assembly. Invite a band that plays popular music, and have student leaders speak. Academic clubs could share highlights and promote themselves as well.

If school officials hold future Honors Assemblies, the gatherings could become academic pep rallies, something few students would want to miss.

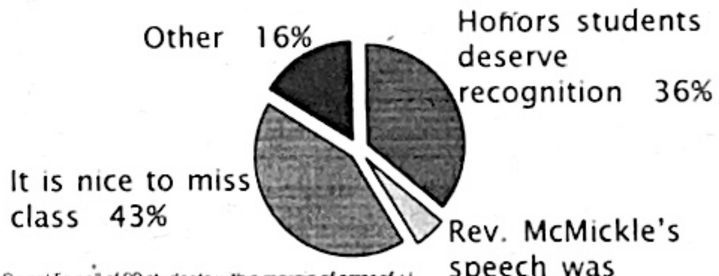
Do you think that the distribution of Bravo cards made some students feel left out?

Yes	No
72%	28%

Do you think that the school should have another honors assembly?

Yes	No
54%	46%

Why do you think that there should be another honors assembly?



Scientific poll of 99 students with a margin of error of +/- 10 percent. Journalism I and Shakerite classes telephoned students.

Dear Doris

By Becca Bonthius and Rick Jennings
OPINION EDITORS

Dear Doris,
Have any ideas for a good New Year's party for high-schoolers?
Thanks,
Auld Lang Syne

Dear Auld,
It's a great time of year for New Year's parties. Since most of the festivities take place way after the bedtime of any civilized person, my favorite way to celebrate is to turn all my clocks forward and pretend that it's midnight. That way, you only have to stay up until, say, 7:00, and you can pass the time by playing Boggle. When it's "midnight," you can cue up a tape of last year's ball dropping in Times Square. As always, I frown upon drinking, but since it's New Year's Eve, you can perhaps treat yourself. You and your friends can 'go crazy,' and enjoy a nice glass of sparkling prune juice.

Dear Doris,
I'm directing my church's Christmas tableau, but we don't have good enough actors and production staff. What should we do?
Thank you,
Desperate director

Dear Desperate,
In this situation it is completely acceptable to bring in old friends to fill in roles in a production. You can always trust them more, and it's always better to have sheep. Break a leg!

Dear Doris,
I've been so stressed out about National History Day lately. I've researched, typed, edited and stapled a thousand times. It's finally done, but I'm a zombie. I haven't slept or gone out with friends in weeks. I've really invested a lot of time and work on this project, and I'm afraid that something could happen to it. How can I make sure that my kid won't screw it up when he has to present it to his class?
Thanks,
The best parent ever

Dear Parent,
After all the hard work you've put into this project, it's not worth risking a mistake by your clumsy student. Tell the teacher that he's ill with laryngitis, and present it for him. You – I mean, *he* will be assured a better grade, and your hard work will be rewarded. Best of luck to you both, and I hope to see you in Districts. But if you think you can beat my – rather, my *granddaughter*'s project, you've got another thing coming.

Dear Doris,
What's the proper way to respond when a University School hockey fan whacks you in the face with a goose? Details are sketchy, as I was a little drunk at the time, but I believe I knocked out some teeth with a few punches. Was I justified?
Inmate #C732953

Dear Inmate,
Perhaps you shouldn't have stopped there. I would have mopped the parking lot with his preppy US face, then taken that goose and beat him mercilessly. I don't know why any self respecting Shaker cop arrested you for what you did.

Bush is cooking with gas, coal and oil

By Will Bostwick
PHOTO EDITOR

Imagine that you have a pop quiz coming up. Would you rather know how hard it will be, or what you can do now to keep from failing? Now imagine that your performance on this quiz affects the future of the global environment and the lives of all who live in it. If you are President George W. Bush, this is exactly the kind of test you are facing.

Refusing to take immediate actions to combat the growing trend of global warming, the Bush administration has recently proposed to research and assess the problem and its causes over the next five years. This decision, paired with Bush's rejection of the Kyoto treaty, perpetuates devastatingly weak attempts at pollution restriction consisting only of voluntary industrial cutbacks on emissions.

And what power plant would voluntarily install antipollution devices when it could simply ask the administration to repay its industry's generous campaign contributions? Considering that the president has consistently cut back on environmental regulations in favor of the interests of his benefactors, not very many. Indeed, a few weeks ago, President Bush relaxed rules that restrict dangerous emissions from old coal-fired power plants, enabling them to modernize without constructing systems that monitor and limit pollution levels. The mining industry donated more than $5 million to the Republican Party during the 2000 presidential campaign.

We are living in a world in which the environment is moving rapidly toward a bleak future. The global climate is changing, world energy consumption is expected to increase 50 percent in the next decade, and our national pollution standards are constantly being ignored or eliminated. We cannot sit idly by researching the severity of global warming when in five years it may be too intense to reverse. There is hope, but action must be taken now, because this is going to be one heck of a quiz.

The president has consistently cut back on environmental regulations in favor of the interests of his benefactors.

FIRST PARKING SPOT ON THE OVAL

Beware the fourth floor monsters!

You had to park past Southwood; start the 80 mile trek to school

Lose a turn

SNOW DAY? NO WAY!

You decide to brave the dark unknown of Stage Three

Stumble to the dance

The Fencing Room

THE HOCKEY GAME "Put down the ducky!"

Go up 2 spaces

You win a freestyle battle in sixth period lunch

FIGHT!

Lose a turn

The Bus

RTA

THE SCHOOL DANCE

Go to Room 110

You've practiced Darren's Dance Groove. You're ready for Modern Dance Club

Go up 2 spaces

GO TO ROOM 110

Now change into a bathing suit . . . you have class on the third floor

Bring your winter jacket to class . . . you have study hall

RTA

Blue Line

That's funny...go up 1 space

You get lost in the senior prank 50-yard line forest

The Shakerite room

Move back a space

The cameras caught you shoving two salads and a sloppy joe in your backpack

Go to Senior Lounge

You just watched "Forrest Gump" and have an urge for ping pong

Lose a turn

You're broke at the copy machine

The textbook office

IN ROOM 110 JUST LOITERING

Will Bostwick and Lauren Gardner • THE SHAKERITE

Games of our lives

•Board games mirror social trends

By Jason Plautz
STAFF REPORTER

When does life regularly involve campaigns for mayor, the birth of twins, tattoo removal and plastic cars? As strange as it may seem, these events and more make up a normal lifetime for game players. Players of The Game of Life, a popular board game, live it out. Though these events may seem unrealistic by today's standards, they were a part of the ideal lifestyle when the Life first came out.

Adapting to the times

Board games have reflected the societies in which they were first played for years. Games embody the values and trends relevant to the time period. During the 1960s, for example, Life took the desired suburban life that many dreamed about and put it into a game. The game incorporated houses with a white picket fence, and a family with cars and multiple children represented by blue or pink pegs.

> "Games give the family something to do together."
>
> Wayne Birgey
> director of local Toys 'R Us store

According to an NPR report on the history of Monopoly, one of the most popular games ever, the game was first played during the Great Depression, a time of economic hardship. Millions of Americans enjoyed playing the role of wealthy businessman, buying and selling real estate to collect a massive fortune. The game contains high undertones of capitalism (it has been banned in Communist Russia, China, North Korea and Cuba), serving a dual purpose of educating the budding economists of America. The radical game (Parker Brothers at first rejected it because it had no clear ending point) was first patented in 1904, but was not popularly produced until 1933, at the height of the Great Depression.

Junior Lauren Robinson feels that Monopoly teaches players the labors of economics. "You have to work hard to pass Go," she said.

Trivial Pursuit has published special movie editions, and even a baby-boomers edition, geared toward the aging generation of Americans. A version of The Game of Life based on the hit Disney film "Monsters' Inc" has even been produced.

After Sept. 11, many games capitalized on the surge of nationalism, publishing patriotic editions, including America-in-a-box (a version of Monopoly), Discover America (a patriotic trivia game) and Who Am I? America edition (a version of the board game published by Biography).

These games, in addition to the rise of classic games, have helped board game sales grow. Board game sales have grown by 21 percent in the last year. John Fernando, the owner of John's Toy and Furniture World in Cleveland Heights, said games have sold extremely well in his store. "The classics, the kids games and the Trivial Pursuit," he said, listing the top sellers in his store.

Time to bond

The most constant value in society that board games have reflected is the family unit. Board games bring families together for an enjoyable hour. Wayne Birgey, the director of the local Toys 'R Us store, said he has seen board games sell consistently because they are a family entertainment. "They give the family something to do together," he said. "They interact."

Freshman Geoff Sanford also agreed with this purpose of games. "They get families to be with each other more," he said.

Escape from reality

A board game encompassing the world-wide threat of the Cold War was published and gained immense popularity. Risk, published by Parker Brothers, entertained Americans who tried to reenact what they thought their own government would do. Now, computers have taken Risk out of the box and brought it into today's society. Enhanced graphics, tactical options and special editions have morphed to fit the desires of a new generation.

> "Games let us do what we can't normally do."
>
> Chris Nau
> sophomore

Fantasy board games, such as Risk, have captivated Americans for years. People have always wanted to do something else, be someone else or second-guess the government. Risk, Diplomacy and Axis and Allies have appealed to Americans. These games give people the chance to change the course of history in their own living rooms. Other games give people the opportunity to lead a country, like Junta, The Race for the Presidency, Save the President and even Police State, a satire of Soviet Russia where opponents can be sent to Siberia. Sophomore Chris Nau said that these games are appealing because they allow players to take on real-world issues. "Games let us do what we can't normally do," he said.

Some games have even moved off the board and out of reality. Dungeons and Dragons, a popular fantasy game, doesn't use a game board and deals with magical issues. These games, appealing to Americans who revel in mystical culture, lack formal rules or predetermined paths.

The principles behind board games have even changed throughout the years. So-called "first generation" games, according to an online article by Alan R. Moon at www.discovergames.com, were much more simplistic. "First generation games were mostly roll the dice, move your pawn on the track around the edge of the game board, and then do what it says on the space you land on," wrote Moon. "Second generation," or abstract, games, are more diverse and skill-based. "Second generation games are full of flavor and in the best ones, the mechanics complement and enhance the theme." Examples of these games are Go, Mastermind and two games that allow players to guide the evolution of a dinosaur species – Tyranno Ex and Evo.

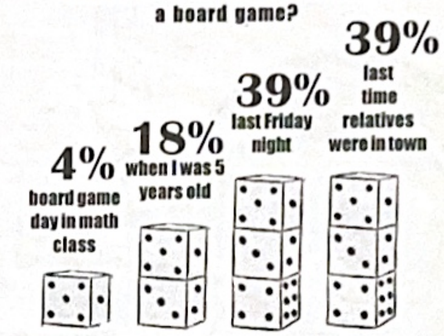
As Americans became more educated in the second half of the twentieth century, intellectual board games soared in popularity. Trivia games challenged the minds of the newly educated Americans. Similar games engaging America's minds had been around for decades, but they had never gained popularity until the education craze really hit. Sophomore Charles Inniss said that he plays intellectual games, most commonly Go To The Head of the Class, with his family, especially in the car. "They're entertaining, they pass the time and the random pieces of facts are fun to learn," he said.

Party time

One increasingly popular form of board games is the "beer and pretzel" game, a game designed to play over snacks at a party. These games, with names like Dirty Minds and Sexual Secrets, are primarily geared to adults. These games reflect the easy-going segment of America, the fun-loving adults who hang out with their friends over beer and play games. One common "beer and pretzel" game is Chauvinist Pigs, a game that uses gender stereotypes to formulate trivia questions for either sex. A game in which seemingly racy clues lead to an innocent answer, Dirty Minds is also a famed game for adults.

Sharply contrasting "beer and pretzel" games are abstract games, such as Go, Scrabble or Rumikub. These games appeal to the intellectual portion of America, those educated adults who enjoy a mental challenge over a game of luck.

When was the last time you played a board game?



Scientific poll of 99 students with a margin of error of +/-10 percent. Journalism I and Shakerite classes telephoned students.

From pebbles to Park Place, the evolution of board games

By Marguerite Moore
STAFF REPORTER

Sunday evenings filled with family time, Chinese take-out and board games may have waned over time, but many people look back fondly on such nights.

The original reason for board games is unknown, but they have evolved over 4,000 years, originating in Greece and Rome.

Mancala, a popular game involving a wooden board and pebbles, is considered the oldest board game in the world. It was played in Egypt before 1400 B.C.E., and carvings of the game have been found on roofs of temples in places such as Memphis and Thebes. The popularity of Mancala is attributable to the minimal materials required to play the game.

Strategic games, including Chess and Scrabble, have historically been very popular. While chess had no identifiable creator, it was first played and made popular in Persia. Alfred Butts created the popular word game Scrabble in 1948. In the 1980s, games such as Pictionary and Trivial Pursuit drew adults to the table. Most recently, technology has reformed board games such as Perfection by adding buzzers and memory boards for enhancement.

According to a Shakerite poll of 99 students, Monopoly is one of the most popular board games at Shaker. Monopoly was created in 1910 by college students who named it "The Landlord's Game." Charles Darrow, who bought the game from them, sold it to the Parker Brothers in 1935 and copyrighted it later. Today, Monopoly is created in more than 15 languages and has sold more than 100 million copies. Newer versions include Cleveland and Patriotic Monopoly.

Compiled from www.tradgames.org.uk ; www.wb.assortment.com

SHAKER OPOLY

	Go back 2 spaces	Go up 1 space	RTA	Congratulations! Go up 2 spaces	Lose a turn	
Guerilla warfare bagel-selling in the morning	You get here at 6 a.m. to get a parking spot . . . you idiot.	You discover a hidden talent for Salsa dancing with lessons from Carlos	Green Line	You break barriers when you leave school through the (choose correct race) black/white door	You get lost in the crowded hallways	
Gym class	Still in gym class	Yep, still in gym	Ah . . .stress management, at last!	"Gooood morning, Shaker!"	Slawson's announcements	
			Go up 2 spaces			

GO

			Go back 2 spaces	Go up 1 space	
The Third Floor	You've got way too much blood and you're feeling generous. . .	Go to the Senior Lounge	RTA	Red Line	Yay! Pep Rally! Oh . . .just kidding.	Go back 2 spaces
Room 129: take a deep breath		Go back 1 space	THE SENIOR LOUNGE			
The Art Fair	Yeah, no school! Go up 1 space					
SANKOFA						

Trash to TREASURE

● Gnomes and roses are good enough for some gardens, but junior Meg Pirrung's family likes to be more creative. "A used tire is something my mom would put in her **garden**," Pirrung said, "because she uses weird things to put her flowers in."

Every **two weeks**, Americans wear off enough rubber from their tires to make **3.25 million new ones**. The designers of the Jewish Community Center on South Woodland Road put worn-out rubber to use and built an entire **playground** almost exclusively from recycled tires.

Junior Cody Rose shares his own plan with underclassmen. "Save up a bunch of tires so you can roll them down the stairs on **senior prank** week," he said.

● A hole in the knee doesn't have to mean the end of your favorite Levis. Students are finding a great number of options when it comes to reusing denim.

Junior Cody Rose said, "You can cut them up and **sew patches** on your other pants."

Rose could **save $118** if he made his own patch jeans instead of buying them from Guess Jeans. By visiting www.industrialsewingmachine.com, students can find directions to fashion their own patchwork jeans. The site also explains how to create cut-off shorts and other denim articles.

On average, every American has **seven pairs of wearable jeans**. Based on this statistic, the student body has **11,991 pairs of jeans** stashed in closets and smashed in drawers. Instead of simply wearing them, senior Lauren Story thought of a more creative idea.

"You can make one of those nifty **butt-jean purses**," she said.

● What are you planning to do with this Shakerite when you're done reading it?

"You could build a **rocket ship** out of papier-mache," senior Lauren Story suggested.

Junior Meg Pirrung said she uses her old newspapers for a more practical end. "Those go in my **bunny rabbit's cage**," she said.

These students are a step ahead of Americans who contribute to **the 44 million newspapers** thrown away daily—the equivalent of **500,000 trees**. In an effort to make better use of old papers, Environmental Club placed cardboard boxes in the office, library and classrooms around the building. Club adviser Robert Sylak said the high school saves **300 pounds of paper** weekly. In addition to newspapers, the city collects old phone books in June. This year, Shaker saved **8.71 tons of phone books**, which is the third highest out of all the cities in the Cleveland area.

● Americans use **100 million cans every day**, and according to Shaker Director of Food Services Cindy Gonfido, the high school can account for more than **720** of them daily from the cafeteria, egress and social room. Custodians have placed recycling bins around the cafetena to discourage waste. Recyling just one aluminum can saves **three hours'** worth of the energy needed to **run a TV**. So if we recycled every can used at the high school, in just four days we could save enough energy to run a TV nonstop for **an entire year**. Besides energy conservation, cans actually produce a significant amount of cash when recycled. In one year alone, the value of cans that were dumped into landfills was more than **$600 million.**

Shaker provides additional alternatives to throwing cans away.

"Kids used to make real **mini-race cars** out of aluminum pieces," science teacher Robert Sylak said, referring to the high school's Ecofair.

If you are interested in adding your cans to a fund for Habitat for Humanity, drop them off at 6060 Parkland Boulevard in the Landerhaven Office Park.

Rachel Morgenstern-Clarren • THE SHAKERITE

● According to Richard Bole, an environmentalist at Recycle Midwest, glass is one of the most difficult recyclables to handle because it is heavy and sharp. Nevertheless, Shaker has provided curbside pickup for glass bottles since 1990. Recycle Midwest packages the sorted glass into **55-gallon plastic barrels** and trucks them off to Strategic Materials in the Flats, where it is processed and sold back into the market.

Instead of leaving glass-handling to the city, crafty Shaker students thought of creative ideas for discarded glass bottles.

A couple students considered making **mosaics** from the glass.

"You break it up into lots of small pieces," senior Hannah Lavin said.

Senior Tim Porter had a retro idea. "I'd fill them all with melted toys. It'd kinda be like a **lava lamp**."

- Compiled by Jennifer Broadbent

It's not garbage to Grandpa

By Anna Hutt
COPY EDITOR

Don't want to save your plastic fork from lunch? Maybe your grandma will.

Although many students don't recycle habitually, the practice of reusing old items seems to have been more common a few generations ago.

"My grandmother used to save every piece of string, every bottle—[she] wouldn't throw anything away," science teacher Robert Sylak said.

Mollie Roth, grandmother of a Shaker junior, confirmed this way of life.

"When I was a little girl, I always had hand-me-downs," she said. "I think it was mostly something everyone did. It was a question of economics, of not going out and buying new clothes." Roth said she still saves plastic silverware and tin foil.

Cristie Snyder, program officer at the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, said that older generations made recycling a policy because during the Depression they were forced to conserve and ration. Once shortages were not a part of life anymore, reusing fizzled out.

"The baby boomer generation had everything handed to them," she said.

High school receptionist Marian Travis agreed that her generation found more necessity in preserving and reusing. "People today recycle less because there isn't any urgency to recycle," she said. She regularly reuses TV dinner dishes, among other items.

According to science teacher Robert Sylak, who is also adviser to the Environmental Club, technology and marketing have replaced the value of recycling.

"We became a consuming society, a more visual society," he said. "In order to buy something now, it has to be packaged nicely."

Snyder added, however, that several decades after the Depression, recycling became more widespread. "It was really booming in the late '80s and early '90s," she said. "I'm more inclined to recycle than my parents are, but my grandparents are also more likely to."

Shaker participated in this boom by running annual Ecofairs at the high school from 1989 to 1996. Students spent several weeks researching and designing games using recycled materials. Younger children in attendance could participate in more than 50 booths— creating aluminum race cars, milk-bottle bird feeders and bat houses out of scrap lumber.

The event, which ended when Sylak started teaching AP Environmental Science, provided the community with environmental awareness. "It was more for us than for anything else," Sylak said. "A good lesson was learned."

Snyder agreed that awareness has improved in recent years. "I would say recycling is now a growing trend," she said.

How to thrift for your holiday gifts

By Matt Seidner
BUSINESS MANAGER

With the holiday hubbub, it may be hard to afford the gifts you want to buy for your friends and family. Never fear, just head over to a local thrift store, and you'll find more than enough recycled gifts to please everyone on your list.

For the past week, I've been scouring local stores for a less pricey alternative to holiday shopping; I was so successful that I had money to spare for myself when I was done.

First I went to CD/Game Exchange at Van Aken. This is *the* definitive place for holiday shopping. Whether you're looking for CDs, DVDs, video games or posters, you can find everything that you want. I purchased three gifts here for under $30 total.

For my mom, I got "Pet Sounds" by the Beach Boys. I could have found a new copy at a store like FYE, but not for $9.63.

Next, I bought "The Score" by the Fugees for junior Mike Koler. While Koler admits that he could have had someone burn it, "it's nice to have the original CD," he said.

Would you be offended if you were given a used gift?

Yes 64%

No 36%

Scientific poll of 99 students with a margin of error of +/- 10 percent. Journalism I and Shakerite classes telephoned students.

Koler was split on the decision of whether he would buy new or used gifts for his friends. "I'd probably buy a new [CD] because I'd feel bad saving that extra five bucks," he said. But he added that if he bought a used CD, he would get two instead of one.

The third item, which technically wasn't a gift since I bought it for myself, was "Itch" by Radiohead. I had never seen the CD before, and I'm sure I never would have heard some of the songs on it otherwise. It was probably the best $12 I have ever spent on a CD.

Music isn't the only item with great deals at thrift stores. Sophomore Ellie Kibbe goes to the Salvation Army to buy used clothes for between $3 and $5. "If I fit into a little boy's shirt it could be 50 cents or less," she said.

Besides costing less, used items are more environment-friendly. "Used merchandise does save packaging. It ultimately does save landfills," said Richard Shahinian, who is the owner of CD/Game Exchange. But he added that most people want to buy new gifts.

Kibbe said she saw no problem in buying used gifts for her friends unless she knew they would mind. "Some people have standards of where they would like their gifts bought," she said. "Maybe they'd feel it was inexpensive... and less important."

Shahinian believes that there is no reason to take offense at receiving a recycled gift. "I would have to hope that anyone who gets a gift would be thankful," he said. "I know in our business, people are happy to have the used."

Pfaff paints the canvas with talent

By Sarah Wang
STAFF REPORTER

In the brightly lit art room, cluttered with half-finished paintings and mannequins posed for still-lifes, Enya music plays in the background as a girl wearing a pumpkin colored scarf does an interpretative dance to the tune. A minute later, she stops swaying. Not because she's embarrassed, but because she can't control the laughter that's spilling out of her.

Still laughing, senior Emily Pfaff tosses her scarf over her shoulder and plops down on a makeshift chair, wiping her hands on her paint-splattered clothes before reaching for her ubiquitous bottle of iced tea.

> "She truly knows herself...She's independent, funny and extremely focused."
>
> Daniel Whitely
> art teacher

Even though Pfaff still can't color inside the lines of coloring books, hates crafts and isn't the world's greatest interpretative dancer, she is in every way an artist.

Currently in AP Portfolio, a double period art class, Pfaff has taken art classes at the high school since freshman year. "We spend two and a half hours here during the school day and we spend our lunch periods here voluntarily and we're here after school practically every day even if we have nothing to do," said Pfaff, who guesses that she spends a total of three and a half hours per day in the art room.

The class, taught by Daniel Whitely, keeps Pfaff busy with assignments both in and out of school. With her projects for art class, her piano lessons, her passion for photography and her commitment to "Semanteme" as the art editor, Pfaff is almost always creatively occupied.

"She truly knows herself, as an artist and as a woman," said Whitely, who has had Pfaff in his class since her sophomore year. "She's independent, funny and extremely focused; her confidence has grown so much over the time I've known her," he added.

But don't think that being a talented artist is a breeze for Pfaff. "I am the whiniest, most needy art student you will ever meet and whenever I am doing a painting I will whine and cry and moan and scream 'Mr. Whitely' every three seconds and I get so frustrated and everyone laughs at me," Pfaff said.

Leaning against the wall is her most recent painting that deals with transparency.

Pfaff feels that she needs to develop her style from illustrative to more painterly. "I don't have a lot of freedom with the brush or with pencil because I want everything to be so perfect, so I don't allow stuff to flow," explains Pfaff.

She thinks that modern art is the coolest art movement, though she usually doesn't understand it and hates when people try to attach too much interpretation to one painting. "I just think that you're missing the point of art if you only look at paintings for some literary meaning behind it. Art should just be a visual thing," said Pfaff.

Even though she has a great love for art and may minor in art in college, she knows that she doesn't want to live the life of the starving artist. "I'm terrified. Mr. Whitely told us about a former student, the best painter I've ever seen, who is now eating out of dumpsters in New York," Pfaff said.

After tilting her head to the side for a moment, she finds the right words to describe that passion. "Art is just anything that expresses an emotion," she says with a satisfied look on her face.

Fun Facts about Emily

- Favorite movie: "The Graduate"
- She lives in: Birkenstock sandals
- Favorite painter: Van Gogh
- Favorite gummi bear color: red
- Favorite book: "The World According to Garp" by John Irving
- The best comfort food: minestrone soup
- Favorite band: Phish
- Prefers: white mint ice cream to green mint

Sarah Wang • THE SHAKERITE

EMILY PFAFF WORKS on a painting in Daniel Whitely's art room. Pfaff is currently taking AP Art Portfolio.

Modern Dance Club shows skills in spotlight

By Liz Campbell
A&E EDITOR

Cleveland may have lost the Cleveland Ballet, but that doesn't mean there is no hope of seeing a quality dance show in these parts. The Modern Dance Club's Dec. 13 holiday show displayed the high school's talented dancers in a variety of styles including ballet, jazz and hip-hop.

"We have a very committed group of people this year," said adviser Pam Corbin, who is junior club member Tyla Corbin's aunt.

Corbin has been club adviser for 13 of the 40 years that Modern Dance Club has existed. Working with her to develop fabulous pieces are choreographer Sabrina Gregory and several student choreographers.

Corbin said the club also has principal dancers who perform in most of the pieces of the show and do solos as well.

Seniors Brandon McCafferty and Sharmayne Freeman, two of the student choreographers, showed their incredible skills in a believable duet. They seemed comfortable with each other, which allowed them to easily convey the intense romantic tone of the piece.

Astrid Matthews • THE SHAKERITE

SENIOR BRANDON MCCAFFERTY sings and dances to an original composition with other dancers juniors Jacob Wick and James Neal.

McCafferty also wowed the audience when he sang an original composition while dancing. Juniors Jacob Wick and James Neal and sophomores Ray Haney and Jordan Scott helped out as his back-up dancers.

Although the principal dancers were in the spotlight for much of the show, most of the pieces were choreographed so that as many members as possible could have a moment on stage.

The show began with a full company performance that had a 1920s theme.

The club embodies Shaker's ideals with its 33 members of multiple races and ages, both male and female.

Reflecting this diversity, the music was not a single style, but ranged from oldies to rap to new age. The talented dancers easily adapted to the different styles, and the varied music made the show exciting and interesting because the audience never knew what to expect next.

Even in the finale piece, all the dancers maintained their high energy, an amazing feat given the demanding choreography used throughout the show.

According to performers, this excitement required stressful preparation.

"It was hard and it was long, and people got on my nerves, but it was worth it," Tyla Corbin said.

Man of La Mancha surpasses the Impossible Dream

By Ashlei Cannon
STAFF REPORTER

Sancho Panza is a name that you will never forget after watching the theater department's rendition of Dale Wasserman's *Man of La Mancha*.

Sophomore Blake Thompson captured your heart and tickled your funny bone as he played Sancho Panza, the devoted squire of the main character Don Quixote played by junior Arlo Hill.

Though Thompson's comedic moments ran throughout the play, he really shined during his solo "I Like Him."

Man of La Mancha, a play within a play, is about poet Miguel de Cervantes, his squire Sancho Panza and the time they spend in jail awaiting their trial during the Spanish Inquisition. Hill plays Cervantes and Alonso Quijano along with Don Quixote. As Hill went from portraying one character to another, he drew distinct lines between each personality and appearance while maintaining his obvious passion for theater.

At the Theater

Another performance to be noted is sophomore Hannah Corrigan's as Aldonza. Corrigan's beautiful singing voice emphasized during the song "Aldonza", combined with her outstanding theatrical performance presented the illusion that she is far older and more experienced than a sophomore in high school.

With her superb talent she had the ability to tap in to various emotions and win the crowd over.

Under the stage direction of James Thornton, the musical direction of Robert Schneider and the talents of the cast, the theater department mastered a challenging show and graced the stage with a beautiful production.

Brian Gamm • THE SHAKERITE

JUNIOR ARLO HILL plays Miguel de Cervantes and sophomore Blake Thompson plays Sancho Panza in a beginning scene of the theater department's production of "Man of La Mancha." Hill showed exemplary musical talent and Thompson added humor.

five Minute critic

Empire

Starring: John Leguizamo, Granville Adams
Director: Franc Reyes

Empire had the potential to be a terrific movie with a solid plot and quality actors. But it wasn't. Vic (Leguizamo), a successful drug dealer marketing the heroin blend he calls Empire, decides it is time to take his millions and turn legit. Unfortunately the movie has too many guns, too much profanity and not enough action. Overall it wasn't worth its price, even at the matinee.

★★
out of four
-Rebecca Wolff

Maid in Manhattan

Starring: Jennifer Lopez, Ralph Fiennes
Director: Wayne Wang

Lopez stars in the latest spin-off of Cinderella. She plays single-mom Marissa, a maid in a ritzy New York hotel. She gets in a rut after accidentally seducing Republican politician Christopher Marshall (Fiennes), who mistakes her for a rich woman. While keeping its 'chick-flick' flair, it hits on some major social issues concerning Marshall's interaction with a Latino single mom, and the relationship between Marissa and her son.

★★★
out of four
-Wil Werner

The Other Ones concert

Venue: Gund Arena
Date: Oct. 27

I had one of the greatest concert experiences of my life at The Other Ones (the remaining four members of The Grateful Dead) concert. This is the first time they have toured since Jerry Garcia died in 1995. The band's jamming skills were obvious at the concert. At the end, I was more satisfied than after Thanksgiving dinner.

★★★★
out of four
-Cassie Heller

Who's your Teacher?

The new challenge: Circle the incorrect statement about each teacher.

Answers at the bottom

Robin Snyder

Mathematics

A. She is a snowboarding fanatic.
B. She envies people who can play the guitar.
C. She has taped almost all of "The Brady Bunch" episodes.

Elisabeth Patch

English

A. She loves playing with Ouija boards.
B. If she were not a teacher, she would like to be a midwife.
C. Albert Einstein is her favorite scientist.

Peter Novakovic

English/ Reading

A. He believes that he most closely resembles a goat and a giraffe.
B. Unlike many colleagues, he is an expert stapler - he has never stapled a finger or thumb
C. He thinks that WWF now stands for Wrong White Fellas.

Compiled by Betty Elee

False statements
Snyder A, Patch C
Novakovic B

This month's noun is no picnic

By Meagan Steiner
STAFF REPORTER

It's not a school club, slang or a new punk band, nor is it a blatant misspelling of an al-fresco meal (though it is pronounced the same as picnic).

And a pyknic is a far cry from the West Central African architecture suggested by sophomore Christopher Inniss.

Junior Gabriella Vari came closest to the correct definition, labeling a pyknic as a midget. A pyknic is in fact a short, stocky person.

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary defines it as one characterized by "shortness of stature, broadness of girth, , and powerful muscularity."

It's also a fairly new word, first appearing in German psychiatrist Erst Kretschmer's book "Physique and Character" in 1921.

> **Pyk•nic** *(pik'nik)* **adj.** in *psychology*, designing or having a body type characterized by roundness or contour, squatness, fleshiness, etc. **n.** a person of the pyknic type.
>
> *- Source: Webster's New Dictionary of the American Language*

Kretschmer developed associations between criminals' body types and their crimes and mental illnesses and analyzed the data.

After observing 4,000 criminal cases, he speculated that the large, athletic ones were more violent, while tall and thin criminals, whom he labeled asthenics or leptosomes, committed fraud and petty theft.

Kretschmer concluded that both athletic and asthenic types seemed prone to schizophrenia.

Finally, the pyknics were manic-depressives who committed both athletic and asthenic-type crimes. The word is derived from the Greek word puknos, meaning thick or close-packed.

Shira Polster • THE SHAKERITE

Pyknic may be used as a noun or an adjective.

"I thought it was a bad word. Isn't it like an old-time slang word?" said junior Kathy Holmes.

Kretschmer's theory has been absorbed to some extent by popular culture.

Today, the phrase "pyknic practical joke" describes an athletic youth who becomes obese and pear-shaped as an adult.

American psychologist William Sheldon modified Kretschmer's theory. He developed three commonly used body types based on Kretschmer's original three- endomorph, mesomorph and ectomorph.

Pyknics are a combination of mesomorph and endoporph types

Noun of the Month

"A different way to spell picnic"
LaDawn Thomas

"Something with pyrotechnics."
David Frisof

"I think it's a sharp, spikey ball that you throw at people."
Jing Wang

"Dinner outside."
James Washington

The stories on the bus go 'round and 'round

Tales of school bus adventures that don't take a backseat

Buses from Page 1

showed with his hands how the bus just flopped.

Estupinan was on the side opposite the road when the bus fell over. "I went flying to the other side. Everyone was dizzy," he said. Even though the accident was dangerous, Estupinan does not seem phased. "It was scary," he said, "but also pretty funny."

> "I went flying to the other side. Everyone was dizzy."
>
> Marco Estupinan
> senior

Junior Matt Gilbert was spared the embarrassment of having his own bus horror story, but his friend was not so lucky. "My friend was getting off the bus and he was right next to the driver," Gilbert said. "He got his pants pulled off." The de-pantsing culprit was his friend's girlfriend. "When the bus driver saw, he stopped the bus," Gilbert said.

"My friend went flying forward. He still had no pants on." Gilbert can only guess why his friend would have dated a girl who would pull his pants off on a bus.

Sophomore Elizabeth Griffith was waiting for her bus on Larchmere when she made a big mistake.

"The bus pulled up, so I got on," said Griffith, who accidentally was headed to Laurel School. She still has absolutely no clue why the bus picked her up, since she wasn't part of the route. Once on the bus, she realized right away that something was wrong.

"I was like, 'um,' wait a second, this isn't right," said Griffith, who is still a little embarrassed by the whole ordeal. "It was a blur," she said. "It was all really early in the morning."

Cliff Harding • THE SHAKERITE

SOPHOMORE JOHN GERTMAN'S December hasn't been all that jolly after a bus slid on an icy Parkland drive into the back of his 2000 Buick Lesabre.

Sophomore John Gertman was parked near the administration-building driveway when his horrifying story occurred. During 10th period, he walked to his car and discovered police officers standing near the crushed rear of his 2000 Buick Lesabre.

"I walked up and I was like, 'Hey that's my car,' " Gertman said. It turned out that a bus had stopped at the stop sign, and the icy road caused the bus filled with kids to slide into his car. The police decided to move the bus. "I was really trying to hold back laughter," Gertman said. "As they pulled the bus off my car there was the most horrible, horrible sound."

Heard in the Halls

Overheard and out of context

"I'm not that dark, man."
"Shut up! You're about as black as your lungs!"
12/1

"I'm like a goldfish."
12/6

"You shouldn't be saying that to me. You're a security guard!"
11/21

"I don't know my dealer's screen name."
11/27

"Man, my fallopian tubes be hurtin' really bad."
12/2

"All right, you know what? The wedding's off!"
12/3

"Maybe I'll start doing it if you start paying me."
12/5

Quality, Trust, Integrity, Professionalism

These principles distinguish us as a leading financial services firm. They are the hallmarks of Salomon Smith Barney

Ask for Bruce Greenwald
Chagrin Falls Branch
100 North Main Street, Suite 300
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022
(440) 247-1342 (800) 892-6126
SalomonSmithBarney
SEE HOW WE EARN IT.SM

Hit him with your best shot

• 4-year goalie Dan Koletsky inspires confidence in teammates

By Amber Lovejoy-Rezek
STAFF REPORTER

At hockey games, fans scream Dan Koletsky's name after every save, and on a typical night, that means an awful lot of hoarse fans.

The senior has a .910 save percentage in four years as a varsity goalie. In that time, Shaker's hockey team has amassed a record of 61-33-10, including one trip to the state championship game, which resulted in a state title in 2001.

Hockey fans aren't alone in their love for Koletsky. His teammates know just how important he is to their success.

"Dan is not bossy and everyone on the team really respects him," sophomore center Jeff Musser said.

The pressure of both teammates and fans is something Koletsky thrives on.

"When everyone is yelling for me and at school they all wish me luck, I can't help but try harder," he said.

On a team with 12 sophomores, Koletsky, a four-year varsity starter, must take a strong leadership role.

Defender Matt Koletsky, Dan's younger brother, says he feels safe when Koletsky is in goal. "I know that he's got my back if I make a mistake," the sophomore said. "Dan really motivates me not only because he's goalie but because he is the captain."

"Keeping the team bonded is my job as captain," Koletsky said. "I try to take control and talk a lot on the ice." He attempts to keep the team focused on winning games and working together.

Koletsky said he believes in his teammates no matter what grade or age they are. "This year's hockey team is very talented and has a lot of potential," he said.

Head coach Mike Bartley says that Koletsky is a good communicator with his teammates. "As a captain he has a lot of positive things to say . . . He stays very upbeat," Bartley said.

In Koletsky's 14 years of playing hockey, winning the state championship as a sophomore stands out in his mind as being "unbelievable." Shaker had lost to Padua four times prior to the final game, but finally beat them, 3-1, at Brooklyn ice rink.

"The team was having such an amazing season and we got on a roll of winning games. It was like we could not be stopped," Koletsky said. "Everyone was full of confidence and our hearts were in it . . . we just worked together and won the game."

Koletsky says he looks up to Bartley and tries to reinforce what he tells him. "When I am talking to the team I try to talk about the game in the same style as him," Koletsky said.

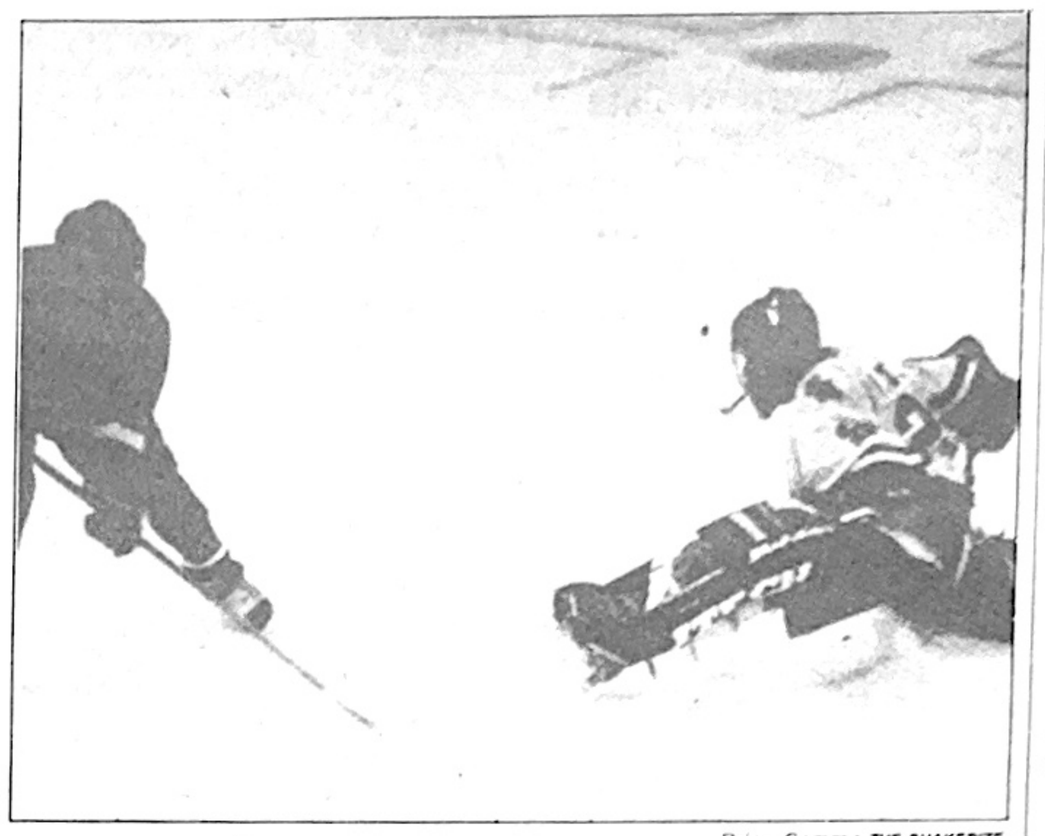
Koletsky is currently considering either playing Junior A hockey next year or playing for a Division I college.

Bartley says he has enjoyed coaching Koletsky. "It's been a pleasure to coach him. Not only is he a tremendous athlete, he's also very polite and sportsman-like," Bartley said.

Player Profile

Dan Koletsky

Ht: 5'10"
Wt: 155 lbs.
Position: Goalie
Record As Starter: 61-33-10
Top Career Stat: .910 save percentage
Best Memory: Winning the 2001 state championship, 3-1 against Padua
Most Embarassing Moment: Running onto the ice while the zambonie was still on



Brian Gamm • THE SHAKERITE
SENIOR DAN KOLETSKY lunges to make a kick-save during Shaker's 5-0 loss to University School. Koletsky, a four-year starter and captain, is one of only three seniors on the team.

Raider Radar

Sports editors Katherine Ekeberg and Jeff Greenwald assess the performances of the winter sports teams.

Men's hoops

• With a 2-1 record the men's basketball team is off to a decent start. After playing well for the first two games, the Raiders lost 70-52 in an LEL game to Lakewood. As long as the team stays focused and plays together, they have a chance to defend their LEL title

Women's hoops

• After losing all five starters from last year's Sweet 16 team, the women's basketball team is struggling to find its bearings. Fifth-ranked Brush defeated the Raiders handily in the season opener.

Women's swimming

• Women's swimming has displayed its usual dominance up to this point, but the team will have to pick up the intensity if they wish to better the impressive performances at the state tournament over the past two years.

Men's swimming

• Men's swimming has been much stronger than expected and will only continue to improve as the season moves on. They may have trouble qualifying individuals for states, but should find themselves in a few relays.

Wrestling

• Wrestling has been progressing satisfactorily with the underclassmen beginning to step up. The team is often underestimated and could surprise opponents who expect to waltz through a match.

Hockey

• The hockey team has struggled mightily to this point, still looking for its first regular-season win. The sophomore-laden team will continue to experience growing pains, but it will be interesting to watch the talented young stars mature.

Safety wins over style

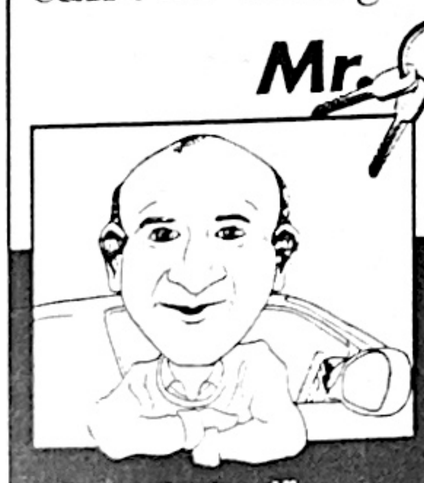
FROM JEWELRY, PAGE 12

need to demonstrate their responsibility by adhering to the dress codes because the safety of the participants is always the number one concern," he said.

Some schools set even more restrictions than the OHSAA requires. If Robinson wrestled for Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary, he would have to put Levelle in a cage - of sorts. High school superstar LeBron James and his basketball teammates at St. Vincent-St. Mary are required to cover up their tattoos with what looks like large bandages during basketball games. Tattoo concealment is not part of the OHSAA uniform rules, but is included in this Catholic school's dress code.

Thousands of students can't be wrong!

Mr. Overbeke's School of Driving



"He actually taught us important things about driving!"

"The information sticks because you make it interesting and fun."

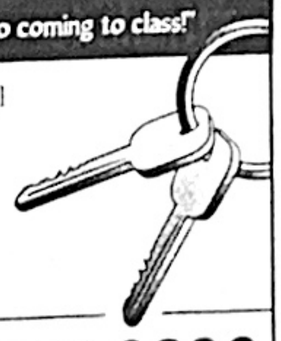
"Driving class is cool."

"I had a lot of fun and learned at the same time!"

"Mr. Overbeke, this class was A-OK!"

"This course was amazing!"

"I looked forward to coming to class!"



- Evening classes meet at Orange High School
- On-the-road training
- Guest experts addressing law enforcement and the teen driver
- Classes starting monthly

Convenient registration by phone

25550 Chagrin Blvd., Suite 310
Beachwood, Ohio 44122

216-765-0600

Wrestlers confront challenges of dieting and tough workouts

FROM GRIND, PAGE 12

Guidelines for a wrestling diet, published on the Kentucky Department of Education's website, advise that wrestlers should lose no more than two to three pounds per week and eat a diet consisting of at least 2,000 calories a day.

However, the diet consumed by Gilbert only totals 1,840 calories, which places him in danger of being malnourished. Eating a diet so low in calories may hurt his game more than the weight loss is helping it.

"I think it's healthy for me because I'm trying to maintain my weight so I don't have to cut as much before I wrestle," Gilbert said.

Ridley Watts is a sophomore trying to drop from 178 to 171. "To change my weight class, my main methods for losing weight are stationary bike exercising and wearing layers of sweats to lose pounds quick. It is not easy and I was not in a good mood, but all of the work is worth it," Watts said.

Dieting can be safe and even healthy when it is monitored correctly. "Most people can handle fasting when practicing good nutrition and focusing on the game rather than the diet. Coach [Enie] suggests that just eating healthy with plenty of protein and carbs is a good and basic diet. Practicing takes away hours of sleep and time to do work, but I force myself to work harder," freshman wrestler Jibi Gueye said.

Laura Kangas • THE SHAKERITE
SOPHOMORE KEVIN TOLBERT lays a headlock on freshman Jibi Gueye, who struggles to reverse the move. Gueye said that most people can diet safely if they monitor their food intake.

> "Practicing takes away hours of sleep and time to do work, but I force myself to work harder."
>
> Jibi Gueye
> freshman

Most wrestlers who drop out do not do so expressly because of the dieting and hard workouts. The time that wrestling requires creates extra stress that can translate into lower grades and poorer performances in other extracurricular activities.

"Most of the athletes that have dropped out told me that they had problems with grades. Even though we have lost some of our wrestlers, I feel that our season will not be affected. I don't worry about the players that don't practice, but rather I depend on players who come to practice and work hard," Enie said.

Shakerite
Sports

12.19.02
12

GAMES TO SEE

1. Men's basketball welcomes perennial powerhouse St. Ignatius on Jan. 4 at 6 p.m.
2. Women's basketball tries to gain momentum as they battle at Solon on Dec. 28 at 6 p.m.
3. Hockey hosts Padua on Jan. 3 at 9 p.m. in a rematch of the 2001 state championship game

By Jeff Greenwald
SPORTS EDITOR

Parents need to just watch or not watch at all

It's a well-known fact that parents live vicariously through their kids, but all of them could learn to do so in a less parasitic fashion.

I am not putting down parents who attempt to further their children's abilities by pushing them to enhance their academic, athletic and social skills-in fact, this encouragement helps many to discover their true passions in life. However, a fine line exists between healthy support and unparalleled fanaticism.

> "It's not wrong to hope your child does well, but coaches know more than the people *sitting in the stands.*"

Recently, parents have taken more cheap shots at referees, coaches and each other than Mike Tyson dished out against Evander Holyfield.

It is hard enough to accept that players resort to fighting during games in order to show emotion, let alone parents, who are not even participants. They are spectators who have embroiled themselves in the conflicts of a child's game and decided that the only way to realize the goals they have set for their children is by brute force.

Physical confrontations between parents and coaches are relatively new, but verbal ones have been going on for decades.

Parents of young kids believe that, because their children are better than everyone else's, they should rack up more playing time. However, athletics for young kids are about teamwork, camaraderie and everyone getting an equal chance to play.

As kids progress to high school and enter more competitive arenas, the roles reverse. Parents of children who have little talent begin to wonder why their kids are not playing and consequently confront the coach.

When coaches are approached by parents, whether for legitimate reasons or not, future decisions about that player are inevitably affected by the encounter. With that, parents have forced themselves inside a place where they should never be-their kids' games.

Parents need to stay away from sports-they only tarnish the games' purity further, something modern-day athletes have already endangered.

It's not wrong to hope your child does well, but coaches know more than the people watching in the stands.

Let them do their jobs.

Gainford named men's soccer coach

By Jeff Greenwald
SPORTS EDITOR

In an effort to improve communication between the men's soccer coaches and players, the athletic department released head coach Skip Harger and hired first-year science teacher Geoffrey Gainford.

"If we have teachers in the building that are able and qualified to coach, that is our first choice," Athletic Director Susan Brown said. "They see their players in the hallway every day, and their background is education."

In November, the athletic department approached Gainford, the junior varsity coach this season, regarding the job.

"It wasn't something I accepted right off. I had to make sure it was in my best interest to go ahead and take it," Gainford said.

Gainford

Players were upset with Harger and his son, Nate, who was the assistant coach. That dissatisfaction may have figured into rationale for the change.

"We didn't feel like we had any obligation to do well for them," junior halfback Ben Abelson said. "We didn't like the way they coached. We didn't think they made us better."

ADVANTAGE OF A FACULTY COACH

- They see their players in the hallways every day, which allows for better communication
- A background in education helps to convey skills and strategies in a developmentally appropriate manner.

Gainford hopes to take the team in a new direction and become a powerful force within the state.

"I really want to focus on the team aspect. I feel if we make our team a more cohesive unit, it will make the sport more enjoyable and better as far as wins and losses are concerned," Gainford said.

Harger could not be reached for comment.

> "We didn't like the way they coached. We didn't think they made us better."
>
> Ben Abelson
> junior

Astrid Matthews • THE SHAKERITE

SOPHOMORE MARK FORRISTELL steps up on the scale to check his weight before changing for practice. Wrestlers try to cut their weight as much as possible to gain an edge over opponents.

AT THE WEIGH-IN

- In order for wrestlers to participate at a certain weight in the state tournament, they must make that weight as of Jan. 10. In an effort to keep wrestlers from cutting down dangerously at the end of the season, the OHSAA also mandates that these athletes wrestle at this weight during 50 percent of their matches.

Going Through The Grind

• Wrestlers must deal with school, diet and practice

By David O'Connell
STAFF REPORTER

Freshman Brady Gilbert, who wrestles at 140 lbs., works hard to maintain that weight.

He follows a strict diet of two waffles, a cup of orange juice and an orange for breakfast; a bag of chips, juice and sandwich for lunch; and a salad with Gatorade for dinner. It all adds up to a diet under 2000 calories-a risky number for the average wrestler.

Athletes such as Gilbert try to reduce their weight as much as possible because facing lighter competition allows them to be stronger relative to their opponents. Wrestling coach Mark Enie said that there are few players actually trimming down.

"When wrestlers are strong, they feel comfortable wrestling guys at their own weight class. There really aren't that many kids cutting weight," Enie said.

Laura Kangas • THE SHAKERITE

FRESHMAN JIBI GUEYE attempts to pin sophomore Kevin Tolbert during one of the wrestling team's grueling practices.

According to Enie, in two months of workouts and practice, five of 30 wrestlers (17 percent of the team) have dropped out.

"Wrestling is the toughest sport I have ever played. People drop out because they have problems with grades, commitment and sometimes aren't tough enough. When joining the wrestling team, your life is dedicated to the sport," said senior Travis Easter, a captain and four-year wrestler.

Enie said that his athletes are in charge of their weight, but that he keeps an eye on their choices.

"The wrestlers decide what weight they're going to go. If they go a weight, they are responsible for being that weight. If it looks like they're cutting too much I'll have them wrestle at the weight above that. The sport is the most demanding of high school kids 'cause you have to be in such good shape," Enie said.

SEE GRIND, PAGE 11

Athletes forced to dump the diamonds for safety

By Alex Hitchens and Ray Daley
STAFF REPORTERS

As senior Greg Robinson prepares to go to war on the wrestling mat, he removes his gold chains and rings while taking a long look at his tattoo of a panther, which he has named Levelle.

"When it's time to wrestle, I take them off and put them in a safe place," Robinson said of his removable accessories.

The athletic field has recently become one of the most popular places to display diamonds and platinum. Though jewelry is often present on professional fields, jewels and chains are mostly off-limits to high school athletes.

Danger is the number one reason for the restriction of jewelry on the field, according to northeastern OHSAA commissioner Bob Curry.

"Sometimes an object can get hooked on another athlete and injury could occur, or an athlete could simply injure himself," he said. "Often times, players are cut and bruised by the jewelry."

Curry insists that the players follow the rules for their own safety because officials may not always be able to spot jewelry. "It could be tucked under pads or under a jersey. Student athletes

SEE JEWELRY, PAGE 11

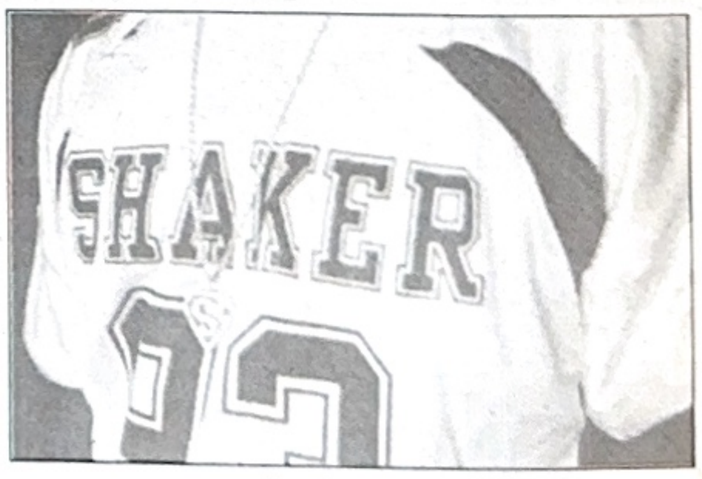


Photo Illustration Will Bostwick • THE SHAKERITE

THE LATEST WAY professional athletes express themselves is through jewelry and tatoos, but some accessories have been banned in high school sports for safety reasons.